

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

**Wolfgang BECKER, Markus BECK, Klaus GOTH,  
Mike PAELMER, Claus-Dieter REINIGER and  
Daniel ZAUNER**

Appln. No.:

Filed: **March 1, 2004**

For: **PROCESS FOR LASER BEAM WELDING WITH  
REDUCED FORMATION OF END CRATERS**

Attorney Docket No.: **3926.071**

Customer Number: **00004288**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Attn: **Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application,  
please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims,  
which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.